Government of Madras

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1426, 2nd October 1923

Floods—South Kanara—Supply of building materials through the agency of Forest Department.

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Floods—South Kanara—Supply of building materials through the agency of Forest Department.

Order—No. 1426, Development, dated 2nd October 1923.

The Government have given their careful consideration to the report of the Chief Conservator and the Conservator of Forests, Sixth Circle, regarding the assistance to be given by the Forest Department in the reconstruction of houses destroyed or damaged by the recent floods in the South Kanara district. They are of opinion that the supply of bamboos required for this purpose should be undertaken by the Forest Department in spite of the dislocation of the departmental programme this involves.

2. Seigniorage fees will be waived in respect of bamboos and other forest produce supplied for the relief of distress in the South Kanara district, which will therefore be supplied at cost price; that is, the cost of felling and transport, and incidental charges only will be recovered from the purchasers. Orders are issuing separately in the Revenue Department in regard to the free grants in necessitous cases should any such remain after the funds raised by public assistance are exhausted. The bamboos should be sold at the distributing centres mentioned in the margin, in the manner suggested by the Conservator and subject to such other conditions as the Collector may deem necessary to impose. The Conservator suggests that the supply of bamboos should be supplemented by grants of palmyras from unreserved lands, by the supply of poles from certain reserves and by that of small timber from unreserves. Effect should be given to these suggestions as far as possible. The procedure in regard to supplies from these sources should be the same as that laid down for the supply of bamboos.

Coondapoor.	Pannemangalore.
Udipi.	Uppinangadi.
Mangalore.	Bevingi.

3. In order to enable the Collector to carry these orders into effect without further reference to Government, the Government are pleased to relax the conditions in section 103 of the Forest Code and to authorize him to make free grants of bamboos and other forest produce from reserved forests and reserved lands without limit of cost. The Collector is requested to report in due course through the Board of Revenue the total value of the grants thus made by him. The powers thus given to the Collector extend only to the value of the actual timber and other produce removed from the forests. As already directed, the cost of extraction will be borne by the grantee.

4. The Government also sanction the grant of the following concessions which have been recommended by the Collector:—

(1) that the rule that Kumakidars should use the trees, timber and other forest produce of their Kumaki for agricultural or domestic purposes only in the village in which the Kumaki is situated be suspended until 31st March 1924;

(2) that the rule that no permits are to be issued for trees under 6′ girth from unreserved lands and under 4′ girth from Kumaki lands be suspended till 31st March 1924; and

(3) that Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars be empowered to issue permits for cutting reserved and classified trees from unreserved and Kumaki lands till 31st March 1924 without the previous sanction of the District Forest Officer.

The local officers should be instructed to watch carefully the manner in which these concessions are worked and to see that they are not abused.

5. Orders are issuing separately in the Revenue Department authorizing the Accountant-General to place at the disposal of the Conservator an advance of Rs. 85,000 to meet the initial expenditure connected with felling and transport of bamboos and other forest produce.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

F. NOYCE,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Conservator of Forests.
,, Collector of South Kanara.
,, Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement).

Copy to the Revenue Department.
,, Conservator of Forests, Sixth Circle.
,, Accountant-General.

E.T.

5 25

Office of the Conservator of Forests,
VI Circle,
Ootacamund, dated 7th September 1923.

From

R.D. Richmond, Esq.,
Conservator of Forests,
VI Circle, Ootacamund.

To

The Chief Conservator of Forests,
M a d r a s.

Sir,

In Chief Conservator's telegram of the 6th September I have been definitely instructed to arrange for the supply departmentally, of the bamboos required in connection with the reconstruction of houses destroyed by the recent floods in the South Kanara District. In a subsequent telegram of this date. I am told that Government are likely to require the Department to make the necessary supplies unless the Relief Committee can undertake the arrangement I have discussed matters with the Collector, in his camp at Gurpur. with the two District Forest officers and with Rao Bahadur N. Subba Rao. the President of the District Board, and the Vice President of the Relief Committee (including apparently ex members with separate Taluk Sub Committees). Mr. Subba Rao, and I understand that he speaks for his Committee, the members of which are distributed all over the affected taluks, though principally between Mangalore and Udipi, is of opinion, that Government should undertake the supply, but states the Committee would undertake it were they made a grant for the purpose, This means that, whatever happens, the cost for supplying the bamboos at convenient centres for distribution would fall upon Government in the first instance and it is expected that Government would not recover the cost of felling and delivery at those centres from the grantees of the produce, except perhaps in the case of certain of those thought to be in a position to pay

2. The Collector accepts the position that Government must undertake the supply departmentally, but is of opinion that we must recover the cost of felling, transport and incidentals,

cf. para 4 of Collr's letter at p. 9 n.f.

the free grant being confined to the value of the produce. Even if the work, or the expenditure thereon, can be entrusted to the Relief Committee we should have to insist upon the recovery of any grant made in this connection by the sale of the produce at the cost of production.

3. The position as regards bamboos in South Kanara, is that, whereas normally there would be plenty available, the periodical flowering and dying has resulted in their being a shortage at the present time; what there are, in conveniently situated localities, are required by the department for floating timber and in every case the forests are far distant from the affected areas.

4. The difficulties connected with the departmental felling and transport are principally:-

(1) the absence of any organisation for such purpose,

(2) the necessity of suspending normal work in order to find staff and supervision - involving loss of revenue

(3) the difficulty in obtaining sufficient labour and carts

(4) the increased expense to the grantees - privately organised labour and transport could not fail to be cheaper the sudden demand for an abnormal number of carts will no doubt tend to raise the rates.

(5) the uncertainty of the accomplishment of the task within a reasonable time.

5. Mr. Subba Rao is convinced that the individuals affected could not possibly arrange for the felling and transport of what they require and it appears to be the general opinion that they would be unable to combine, either as a whole, or in small groups, or to act as individuals, while the distance of the forests and the centres of consumption is undoubtedly an adverse factor. But in view of Mr. Subba Rao's opinion that the Committee could undertake the supply were

are useful however, either as posts or, split, as roofing material, and it appears probable that it will be necessary to extract them to meet the demand. If so, the number of bamboos available would be increased to 2,33,000 in the Northern Division and 250,000 in the Southern making a total of 4,83,000. The cost of felling and extraction of 'bottoms' however is likely to be 50% more than that of 'tops

9. It is difficult to estimate the cost of extraction (felling and carting) which will naturally vary according to the numbers to be supplied at each centre and the source of supply. In collaboration with the District Forst Officers rough estimates have been prepared, these vary from Rs.12 per 100 (for tops) in the case of bamboos from Nerankimale Reserved Forest extracted and sent to Uppinangady to Rs.24 (for tops) from Someshwar to Coondapur, to Rs.35 (for tops) from Sampaji Reserved Forest to Pannemangalore. Even with these rough figures, for each source of supply and distributing centre, it is impossible to forecast the total cost of the work until it is known what number of bamboos will have to be delivered at each centre. The Collector has shown me tables prepared, showing the villagewar number of houses to be assisted and these must be allotted by the District Forest Officer to the distribution centres so as to ascertain the number of bamboos required for each centre. It will then be possible after a fortnight's actual experience of the work of felling and carting from the various supplying areas, to arrive at a rate for each depot, which is easier and would appear to be more satisfactory, than to attempt to fix a flat rate for the District. All that can be hazarded at present is that the actual cost of supply is not likely to be less than Rs.28 per 100 or some Rs.85,000 in all without allowing for depot establishment or any form of 'overhead'. Much will depend upon the the most economical way of distributing the felling areas among the depots. The District Forst Officers are instructed to submit detailed estimates as soon as possible.

10 8

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10. It is considered that the following should be distributing centres i.e. depots from which the entitled in the neighbourhood will obtain their requirements- Coondapoor, Udipi Mangalore, Pannemangalore, Uppinangady and Bevinje. Mr.Subba Rao would have added Hangarkatta, but, as the Collector points out, this is very close to Udipi and Mr. Wells adds Mangalore to the list first prepared

11. The depot procedure would be for the subordinate in charge to sell to anyone producing the Tahsildar's authority (which would be retained) 50 bamboos per house at the rate fixed (the reported actual cost of felling and transport) for the particular depot. This reservation of the bamboos for those considered to be entitled to special consideration would continue up to the 31st December 1923, after which it may be presumed that their demands have been satisfied and, thereafter, all comers could be supplied. The Collector would prefer not to charge these, too, more than cost price and I agree.

The bamboos would be done up in the depot in lots of 50 (half 'tops' and half 'bottoms' if it is found necessary to use the latter) and no division of lots for selection should be permitted. The Range Officer should inspect the depots not less than once in ten days, to check the stock and accounts to satisfy himself that the correct rates are being charged, and to take over the collections in the case of depots which are not within easy reach of treasuries.

It would be preferable could the depots be placed in charge of Foresters, but it is to be feared that this will not be possible. Proposals for the entertainment of depot keepers (they will have to provide security) and depot watchers will be submitted by the District Forest Officers as soon as possible. It is hoped that it may be possible to commence sales from the 1st November. By the 31st March 1924 all

requirements

auction periodically; but if this method of disposal is held in suspense for the time being there will be no chance of contractors raising prices against a necessitous community

It is to be feared that if the supply of bamboos etc is undertaken departmentally, some of the normal work of the two divisions must be abandoned. Specially engaged temporary staff, with no knowledge of the forest, would be a help to neither the special nor the ordinary work. I shall, however, as I have telegraphed the Chief Conservator today, be glad of the services of Mr. Currie, Assistant Conservator of Forests, to organize the special work and to see that is pushed on with as rapidly as possible.

Among the works which it will be necessary to abandon are the elephant capturing operations in South Mangalore the Nalkur -- regeneration fellings and to reduce or abandon the area under preparation for stocking with Hopea next year; while seeing that the staff will be fully occupied during November and December it would appear that fire protection will, necessarily, be neglected to a considerable extent. There are thus likely to be savings to the extent of some Rs.8,000 - on the other hand there is the reconstruction of our own buildings, destroyed or damaged by the floods, to be undertaken as early as possible and it is unlikely that any appreciable part of the amount required for the bamboo -- operations will be available from savings in the Mangalore divisions, or from other divisions in the Circle. A special grant will be necessary, the amount of it cannot be stated with any degree of precision at this stage, though it is likely to be in the neighbourhood of Rs.85,000 - vide para 9 above.

17. The powers of a Collector, in regard to free grants are limited to Rs.1,000, in respect of communities, and it is certain that, even with the cost of extraction eliminated, the amount -- necessary will far exceed his powers or those of the Chief Conservator It seems desirable, then, that the Collector be delegated with -unlimited powers in the present case, the actual value of the grants to be reported in due course.

18. Pending any other decision that may be reached in regard to the agency of supply, the District Forest Officers have been instructed to proceed at once with the preliminary arrangements on the lines of this report. Mr. Currie, when he joins (he will be attached to the Northern division for purposes of pay etc.) will, in consultation with and on the advice of, the District Forest Officers draw up a definite plan of campaign and will put it into effect His headquarters will be nominally Mangalore; but as he will be in camp for practically the whole of the time, the lack of house accommodation will be no obstacle. He must work in close touch with the District of Forest Officers, who will be responsible for the financing of the operations, Mr. Currie's principal concern being with organization and control.

19. Copies of this report have been supplied to the Collector and the District Forest Officers.

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

FLOODS (SOUTH KANARA) - MR. TURING'S REPORTS.

As regards the notes of Mr. Turing on South Kanara floods.

2. He has made proposals for supply of bamboos which will be forwarded at once to Development for consideration and compliance as far as may be possible.

E.W.L.
5-9-23.

To Under Secretary.

Mr. Turing's first note was sent to Development for necessary action with Revenue u.o.No. 1725 B/23-1. dated 31-8-1923. It is submitted that his subsequent notes which differ in some important respects from the previous note may also be forwarded to that department in continuation.

P.T.S.
5-9-23

Development u.o.

D.O. 2035-I/23-1, 1-9-23 (D)

Rev no 1725-B/23-2, 6-9-1923

South Kanara Floods -- General Covering Note.

I have already sent up to Government the Preliminary note on the above subject which I will now call Note I. I now attach two further notes II and III. Note II deals particularly with the results of my inspection near Udipi and Note III with the results of a discussion with a deputation of the more important members of the Mangalore Central Relief Committee.

2. The conclusions are in general confirmatory of the opinions expressed in Note I. But my revised recommendations about the action to be taken differ in two important points from those in Note I. I may explain that I would have deferred reporting at all until these inspections and discussions were concluded, but I understood Government were pressing for some information from the Board in view of the exaggerated newspaper reports which had been published on the subject.

3. In view of the opinion expressed by the deputation about the small scale of immediate relief necessary--Vide para 1 of Note III--- I have already wired cancelling the recommendation made in para 7 of Note I. No grant need be given by Government for this particular purpose. The view held by the deputation on this subject differs materially from that of the President Dt. Board, given me orally a few days previously and the deputation's view is confirmed by my inspections near Udipi. In fairness to the Collector I should explain that he has consistently held throughout that Government funds were not required for the purpose of feeding the sufferers by the floods. A D.O. letter which he wrote to the settlement Commissioner advising a grant of Rs.5,000 for this purpose was written at my suggestion. For the reasons above

explained, I have now come round to the Collector's original view upon this point.

4. The remaining question is the share to be taken by the Government in the Reconstruction operations. My final views on this point are contained in paras 4 and 5 of Note III. The action to be taken falls under two heads.

(1) Loans Work.

The only points to be emphasised on this head are (a) that a Special Loans Tahsildar will probably be required, (vide Note I, para 8 (4) concluding sentence)

(b) that the share to be borne in ~~these~~ these operations by the Co-operative Department should be examined at once in that department.

(c) that loans are desirable to land Lords who have to assist in the rebuilding of their tenants' houses--(Note III, para 4 (5))

and (d) (a more controversial point) that the period for which such loans should be granted, may deserve special consideration. I believe I am right in thinking, that the Local Government has now absolute powers as regards the terms of such loans. The period for house building advances laid down by the Agriculturists Loans Act is 10 years. This period appears to me rather short, particularly in the case of pucca tiled houses or which the cost is considerable. I should advise giving power if possible to the Collector to extend the period to at least 15 years

(2) Supply of building materials, particularly bamboos, at accessible centres by the ~~Rox~~ Forest Department, to be sold at cost price to the persons furnished with permits by the Collector or some authority authorised by him (vide paras 4 and 5 of Note III) which differ in some important respects from those in paras 9 and 10 of Note I. This cost price should

of a disaster affecting simultaneously so many people. From this point of view even a money grant such as that discussed in the preceding paragraph could - perhaps be justified, though as I have said I do not consider it the best solution.

No doubt the recent Government loans (since proposed for conversion into free grants) for reconstruction work in the Malabar district have raised hopes in South Kanara of similar Government assistance But I do not consider the cases parallel. The South Kanara floods are an event over which Government have no control whatever and which differs only in degree, not in kind. from any ordinary seasonal disaster.

7 b/ ~~20~~ 21

Note II.

Mr 2-11 of (D)

This note is in continuation of my note dated 21st August and contains some further information regarding the South Kanara floods. I have since inspected the villages of Tonse East and Tonse West in the Udipi Taluk and a representative area in the village of Udiawar, also close to Udipi The two former villages were selected as those which according to the figures collected has suffered most severely by the earlier (July) floods and as being fairly typical of the thickest-populated agricultural areas of the South Kanara District. They consist of flat lands, partly island, partly mainland, adjoining the Swarnanadi river close to the sea; the lands are mostly ~~xxxxxx~~ coconut gardens and neither these nor the paddy lands have suffered any damage. The village of Tonse West used to contain 670 houses to a cultivated area of 1040 acres or roughly 1½ acres of cultivated land per house. This implies a population of over 2000 to the square mile, very large for a rural area. The figures collected show between 200 and 250 houses in Tonse East and over 300 houses in Tonse West destroyed or damaged by the floods, and in nearly 1/3 of these cases the houses had collapsed. It seems unlikely that any rural area will show damage on a greater scale than this. With the damage to towns I dealt in my previous note.

2. The most noticeable feature of my inspection was the extent to which the flood damage had been repaired. In the case of mud and thatched houses the damaged buildings have been rendered temporarily habitable, usually by the substitution of thatti screens for the mud walls and in a very large proportion of the collapsed houses of this clas the roof has been re-erected or the houses replaced

23 / X / 24

by some smaller structure on the original site. This, of course, proves conclusively, that a considerable portion of the old material is fit for use again, a point touched upon by me in para.10 of my previous note. In fact the whole thatched roof often comes down almost intact.

M 9-10 ½ (D)

In the case of pucca-tiled buildings the damage caused had been in many cases repaired with temporary materials, but where such buildings had completely collapsed, (and there were many such cases) nothing except clearing the debris had been, or could have been attempted.]

3. There was absolutely no sign of unemployment and none of the ordinary signs of starvation or inadequate food. This may be partly due to rice doles which have been distributed by the Udipi Committee.

These doles have also probably contributed to the very considerable amount of reconstruction effected in the short space of six weeks, by rendering it possible to many house owners, who would otherwise have had to seek cooly labour. to attend to the repairs of their houses.

In fact practically all the inhabitants of these two villages are now again living (doubtless in considerable discomfort) on or close to their small holdings and have now resumed their ordinary pursuits. It is reassuring to find such considerable powers of recovery in the population of two of the worst affected villages.

4. Better class houses:- I have already observed that a considerable number of these have been destroyed. It is remarkable how many of these houses are owned by persons who possess only a small extent of land. I was assured that several owners of coconut gardens measuring only 1½ acres in extent had before the floods occupied a house which cost

Note III.

On the 25th I received a deputation of several members of the Managing Committee of the Mangalore Central Relief Committee The resulting discussion was useful in many respects

1. The deputation agreed that the immediate crisis was over that the distribution of doles was daily becoming less necessary and said that they were contracting their operations under this head and expected to conclude them about the 15th of September They were of opinion that the important question now was reconstruction work and not immediate relief They also said that they had sufficient funds for the remaining relief work necessary and expected that when this was over they would have several thousands of rupees remaining.

2. In discussing reconstruction work they touched on the following points:—

(a) Remissions:— All lands in the district which grow two wet crops are, it is believed, compounded double crop wet. A suggestion was put forward that these rules might be relaxed so that those able to grow second crop this year only might receive remission. No rational ground was urged for this concession which appears quite unnecessary These land owners must have gained enormously by holding their lands at compound rates, and there is no reason why they should not be held to their bargain on the rare occasions when loss of crop does occur.

(b) Loans for the restoration of land damaged by erosion or silt. These can be granted under the Land Improvements Loans Act. It is simply a matter of applying the ordinary rules.

(c) Seed grain. The same remark applies, the Act in this case being the Agriculturists Loans Act. The general opinion of the deputation was that most of the sufferers would manage without loans on this account.

(d) Loans for house-building. The deputation were unanimous in thinking that reconstruction of houses is the principal problem, indeed the only problem of serious importance which awaits solution. The discussion went over much of the ground covered by my first note.

3. The deputation's view of what the Government ought to do was at the beginning of the discussion as follows:--

(a) Bring down to convenient centres a quantity of bamboos and other forest produce sufficient for reconstruction purposes and

(1) Make free grants of it at such centres to the poorest class of sufferers and

(2) sell it at price representing the cost of extraction and transport to the sufferers having the means to pay for it, or

(b) in the alternative make a grant of 40 or 50 thousand rupees to the Central Relief Committee to enable them to help house owners to buy bamboos and other forest produce in the open market.

On further discussion however the general opinion was

(1) that assuming a small house would require about 50 new bamboos and the actual cost to the Forest department of extraction and landing the bamboos at convenient centres would be about 15 rupees per hundred (this last figure is taken from the D.F.O's oral statements) a very great majority of the sufferers could find the necessary sum of Rs.7-8-0 for this purchase.

(2) That such sufferers if they were faced with the necessity of either finding the Rs.7-8-0 or going to the forest to cut and transport bamboos would find the 7/8 somehow.

(3) That the present cost of bamboos per hundred at Mangalore being about Rs.35 and likely to rise materially with the increased demand the sufferers would get more benefit out of an arrangement allowing them to purchase at cost price, than out of a system of money grants intended to facilitate purchase at the ordinary market prices.

(4) That a class in real need of help was the class of wargdars or landlords particularly the less well-to-do among them who are faced in many cases with the necessity of reconstructing a number of their tenant's houses and find a difficulty in obtaining materials for the purpose. Assistance to these landlords properly administered would indirectly insure the relief of a numerous class of chalgeni tenants whom it would otherwise be difficult to reach.

4. The general conclusions accepted therefore were

were

(1) Drop all idea of a free grant of building materials by Govt.

(2) Drop all idea of sending the sufferers into the forest to get their own bamboos except possibly in the case of villages within a reasonable distance of the forest.

(3) Make every effort to get the necessary materials down to suitable distributing centres and sell them there at cost price

(4) Persons entitled to purchase at cost price must be furnished with permits by some authority to be hereafter decided. This concession should be extended to the less well-to-do landlords who are by custom compelled to supply the materials for the reconstruction of chalgeni tenants' houses in cases when a number of their tenants have lost their houses.

(5) Loans under the Agriculturists Loans Act should be granted to such landlords for the purpose of reconstructing not only their own but also of their tenants houses.

6) In the case of mulgeni (occupancy right) tenants direct loans should be granted for the reconstruction of the houses

5. I accept the above conclusions as being the most sensible way of dealing with the problem and the Collector agrees. This is assuming, of course, that the Forest Department finds the scheme outlined above a practical possibility. At best it will involve much trouble and organisation and doubtless the postponement for a year of more profitable forest exploitation schemes. But if it is feasible these objections will, I think have to be overlooked. The question should be dealt with on the spot as early as possible by some officer of the Forest Department of the rank of Conservator or above.

6. As regards the amount required under the Loans Act the Collector should make an estimate as soon as he can gather the requisite information.

7. The deputation alluded to some schemes which they had on hand connected apparently with the Co-operative Credit house-building rules recently issued by the Government, but as these schemes were not

not ready they have not been discussed. The members seemed to think that the question of the reconstruction of the towns destroyed would be better dealt with under such co-operative schemes than by loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act. I am inclined to agree, but I am doubtful whether sufficient amount out of the 4 lakhs apparently available to Government this year can be diverted towards South Kanara for this purpose. In any case it will probably be impossible for Government to loan funds for the re-erection of shops, warehouses and the like destroyed by the floods and the owners of these will, I expect, have to depend on their own resources, including their own credit, for the reconstruction of these buildings.

I received on the 24th a small deputation from Buntwal. This deputation wished to talk over the scheme for the reconstruction of that place. Their scheme so far as I could gather was to form the house-owners of that place into a Company under the Companies' Act, the Government should lend to this Company half of the capital required to reconstruct Buntwal at the rate of 4 per cent. It was pointed out to the deputation that the Government themselves will have to borrow money at a far higher rate. The amount required to reconstruct Buntwal may be estimated at 8 lakhs.

I do not think that there is the slightest probability of this scheme taking any practical shape and it is not worth while entering into any discussion with regard to it.

15 ~~28~~ 30

Dev. Deptt

To Under Secy.

(X) Para 1 f/2 supra
4(2) f/3-4
now II f/ 7-8
5 (Covering letter 2) f/ 9-10 supra
paras 3-5 at f/ 12-13 supra (D)

(X) Extracts from Mr. Turing's note may be sent to the C.C. of Forests in continuation of this Deptt. D O 2035-I/23-1 dt. 1-9-23 for necessary action ~~A draft D.O is submitted for approval~~

Through III Section with reference to para 4(1) b of the Covering note and para 7 of note III at ff 13-14 supra

OS 7.9.23

2 Extracts f (para 1 f 2 supra para 4(1) b f 3 supra and para II f 13-14 supra) may also be sent to

Dev. ~~No~~ 2075-I
8-9-23

Accd.

3 Draft D.O. are subt

LRR 7-5-23

S/ LRR 7.9.23

Cl. Forests &c.

RS 7.9.23

4 7423

C4

Clearance enclosed 88 031 cmd. 8/9

Under instructions which I gave to the C.C., Mr Richmond has already gone to S Kanara to make arrangements about the supply of bamboos. I expect to be in Mangalore myself about the 15th

CSC
8/9/23

Jme Sheh
7.9.23

Ed No 1528 Time 11-45 A.M. Rec 12.15 P.M. 10/9/23 at once

Dr. V.R. 10/9

29

31

Dev Dept

D.O.No 2075-I/23-1 10-9-23

Floods S. Kanara Grant of building materials - D.O. 2035-I/23-1 9-9-23

Dear Mr. Tiernan

I am to enclose extracts from a further note on the subject noted above by Tinning for information and ~~necessary action~~ immediate report.

2 The Govt consider that either you or the Asst should visit S. Kanara at once.

11

Secl 7.9.23

Fin. 7.9.23

Forwarded Let Rules Lr closing recorded

DESPATCHED 10/9/1923

To. H Tiernan Esqr. I.F.S.,

Hg C.C. of Forests

with copy of para 4 (2) at pp 3-4 of para 2 at pp 7-8 and para 5 at pp 9-10 paras 3-5 at pp 12-13 of file

D.O.No 2075-I/23-2 10-9-23 7.9.23

My dear Hood

I am to enclose for your information & such action as you may deem necessary, extracts from a note by Tinning on the floods in the S. Kanara dt.

1 enc. 1/2 of note
" 4 (1) & 3 of note
" 7 pp 13-14 of note

DESPATCHED 10/9/23

To. Secy. Govt Engg
Hg Regr. of Cooperative Societies

LRR 7-9-23

Ll 7.9.23

7.9.23

11 / ~~30~~ 32

Floods (S. Kanara) - Collectors further report -

Supply of building materials to the affected pay

from the Collector of S. Kanara, Memo C 4295-

V7 27 40-9 423.

Secretary's remarks on the current.

Copy of paras 1 to 5 of 7 at once to

development for favour of action

Put up again after issue

Received 5.45 PM on 12.9.23

E. W. L.
12.9.23.

Development No
with a copy of Govt letter.

Rev No 17960/23-1
12. 9. 923.

D. 2127-I/23.
12-9-23

~~46~~ / ~~34~~ 33/1

Copy of letter from the Collector of South Kanara, Ref.C. 295-23-V7, dated the 10th September 1923:-

Floods: South Kanara District - Further report submitted.

(N) My report dated 23rd July 1923 printed in G.O.No.1151 Revenue dated 31st July 1923 related to the floods that occurred on 10th July 1923 and my reports dated 9th and 10/12th August 1923 printed in (F) G.O.No.1250 Revenue. dated 14th August 1923 and G.O.No.1274 Revenue (G) dated 18th August 1923 related to the floods that occurred on the 6th and 7th August 1923 The first flood affected chiefly the Northern Taluks of Coondapoor and Udipi and the second flood the Southern Taluks of Mangalore, Uppinangadi Karkal and Kasargod.

2. With regard to both the floods, detailed statistics by a house to house enquiry of the losses sustained in the affected areas were called for from all Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars as per this office circular Ref.C.No.4295-23-V7 dated 23rd July 1923, a copy of which has already been submitted to the Board. Complete statistics have been received in respect of only Udipi Taluk and Coondapoor Taluk (excepting 10 villages). Statistics of other Taluks have not yet been received in full.

Northern Taluks.

The following table shows the number of houses and other buildings wholly and partially damaged in each Taluk.

Name of Taluk.	No.wholly damaged.	No.partially damaged.
Udipi Taluk	1571	249
Coondapoor Taluk	472 x	653

x Includes two washed away houses.

Southern Taluks.

A similar table showing the statistics received up to date is given below.

Name of Taluk.	No.wholly damaged.	No.partially damaged.
Mangalore	4178	663
Kasargod	161	160
Uppinangadi	442	79
Karkal	49	28

3. The chief necessity at present is the reconstruction of the fallen houses and other buildings, especially of those which have completely collapsed and rendered homeless the people who are now scattered about or living in temporary sheds. The total number of such wholly damaged buildings is 6855; calculating 50 bamboos for each building the number of bamboos required comes to 3,42,750 of which 78,550 are required for Udipi Taluk and about 25000 for Coondapoor Taluk including the ten villages remaining to be reported on. As regards the remaining Taluks, the distribution as per above statistics stands as follows:--

Mangalore Taluk including Buntwal & Panemangalore	...	208100
Kasargod Taluk excluding Hosdrug Deputy Tahsildar's division.	...	8050
Uppinangadi Taluk.	...	22100
Karkal Taluk excluding the worst affected parts such as Venur etc.	...	2450

4. I have discussed the question of the supply of bamboos with the Conservator of Forests, VI Circle and the two District Forest Officers. I think the Government should undertake the supply departmentally and waive the seigniorage. As regards the cost of felling, transport and other incidentals, it may be recovered from all the grantees, leaving the Relief Committee to assist the poorer grantees by supplying them with part or the whole of the cost from the General Fund. For the above purpose the Conservator suggests the opening of distributing depots at Coondapoor, Udipi, Mangalore, Panemangalore, Uppinangadi and Bavinje. The period within which the demand for bamboos from the owners of collapsed houses may be met, should be from the 1st of November to the 31st December 1923, within which time it may be presumed that their demands will have been satisfied, so that after that date the owners of partially damaged houses may also have a chance of getting bamboos on the above conditions for repairing their houses up to the end of March 1924, when the depots may be finally closed. The details of the scheme will be worked out by the two District Forest Officers under the instructions of the Conservator. Some of the owners may also require, in addition to bamboos, some better class of timber for the reconstruction work. For this purpose the Forest Department

may be required to sell at the above depots Government timber at fixed rates of cost price up to 31st December 1923, without the intervention of Contractors who are likely to raise prices if the present system of periodical auction be continued. As my power as Collector under the rules regarding free grant of forest produce to necessitous village communities in such exceptional cases is limited to Rs.1000/- or in the case of individuals to Rs.200/- and as the total value of free grants in the whole District will far exceed these limits, it is necessary, to avoid delay that I be delegated with full powers subject to the condition that the actual total value of the grants should be reported to Government through the Board in due course for formal sanction. The Conservator of Forests is also of the same opinion in this matter.

Rules at page 390 of the Forest Manual.

5. In addition to the above I recommend the grant of the following concessions:

(1) that the rule that kumakidars should use the trees, timber and other forest produce of their kumaki for agricultural or domestic purposes in the village in which the kumaki is situated - (vide Rule 7(a) of the Rules under Section 26 of the Madras Forest Act) be suspended until 31st March 1924.

238 of the Forest Manual

(2) that the rule that no permits are to be issued for trees under 6' girth from unreserved lands and under 4' girth from kumaki lands be suspended till 31st March 1924.

(3) that Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars be empowered to issue permits for cutting reserved and classified trees from unreserved and kumaki lands till 31st March 1924 without the previous sanction of the District Forest Officer.

7. The loan rules under the two Loans Acts being applicable only to Agricultural lands and farm houses, some relief by way of loans will also be necessary in the case of afflicted persons at the trading centres of Buntwal, Panemangalore and Uppinangadi, the worst affected parts in the flood areas. This relief is possible by the formation of cooperative housing societies, - proposals regarding which are contained in the enclosed copy of the letter dated 16th August 1923 addressed by the Vide President of the Puttur Central Cooperative Bank to the Assistant Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Mangalore. This problem may, I think,

22-2-6 infra

36 ~~25~~ 34

be referred to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies for remarks.

F/35 37

Copy of letter from the Vice President the South Canara Central Co-operative Bank, Ltd., to the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Mangalore, O.R.No.1241/23-24, dated the 16th August 1923:

Subject:- Co-operative Building Societies - Government Aid.

Your C.No.219/Sup.23 of the 31st ultimo. The devastation caused by the recent floods in the towns of Buntwal, Panemangalore and Uppinangady which have been almost wholly wrecked necessitates the undertaking of schemes of reconstruction on a co-operative basis. The housing schemes at Mangalore and here. may therefore well stand over for some future time and we have to apply ourselves heart and soul to the organisation of Co-operative Housing Societies which offer the only feasible method of reconstruction in all the three places

2. Preliminary investigations towards this end have already been taken on hand in Uppinangady and Panemangalore. Buntwal has been almost entirely evacuated now and it will take some time for the refugees to return to their ancestral ruins and to think of their future schemes of settlement. Quite a large number of refugees have turned their steps to Mangalore and I would suggest an attempt to gather them together and sound them as regards their taking to Co-operative Housing Schemes. I may say your Inspectors, generally speaking, know little of the idea and possibilities of co-operative housing and as it is also a subject which has to be handled with great care and caution, I think you will have to give your personal attention so far as Buntwal is concerned.

3. Excluding a number of people who will have been permanently scared away from Buntwal, I dare say there are a considerable number who cannot but stick on to the unfortunate place making the best of a bad lot. The problem is to find a suitable place at a sufficient altitude above the recent historic flood height. and sufficient to locate the town of the future. So far as I have been able to gather there are two alternative sites viz. (1) Mairana Padavu and (2) Ponnegil Padavu. The first

one is a plateau about ¼ mile to the west of the Bhandarbettu Secondary School and is the nearer of the two sites to the old town with which it can be easily connected by a good road in continuation of the Bhandar lane. I learn there is no difficulty as regards water supply. In addition to the aforesaid connection with Buntwal, the plateau could be connected with a road to be cut at the hill sides to connect it with the Kallige road. The second plateau is to the north of Buntwal on the road to Mudabidri. It is about a mile from the old town. Of these two plots, the former will undoubtedly be the more favoured one. The extent of these two plots available for occupation will have to be ascertained through the Revenue Department and the assistance of the Labour Department will have to be sought for for drawing up the site plans, and marking out therein the layout of roads, streets, house sites etc. Except the construction of roads, there will be little or no other cost of developing the land preliminary to commencing building operations.

4. As regards the location of the commercial centre of the town, it is obvious that the shops and warehouses should be reconstructed along the Charmadi ghat road as before. The proximity of the river which affords a cheap line of transport of goods and the road through which the traffic from up country pours in are advantages which cannot be neglected and which no trader would be willing to forego. The shops and warehouses of the future will serve only for the fair-weather needs of trade, the stocking for the monsoon being duly provided for in suitable godowns in the New Town, where the entire residential portion of the town will have to be concentrated. ~~This~~ This sort of division of house and shop in two separate places instead of hopelessly mixing up the two together appears to me to have more advantages than a mere avoidance of the dreaded flood.

5. The same arrangement will hold good for Panemangalore. The location of the New Town there, I mean the residential portion and the monsoon stocking godowns, will have to be done on the Mills to the north of the old town on the cart track towards the Damarsapai temple in Naricombu village. No other site is available. Here too the available extent has to be ascertained through the Revenue

Department. Supervisor Sitarama Naik has already been deputed to collect information after enquiry with the affected people as to their willingness to join the housing scheme. I have hopes of a sufficiently large number of people falling in with the scheme.

6. As for Uppinangady we have personally held preliminary investigations which lead us to believe in the fruition of a - Housing Scheme for one section of the affected people. They all agree that the New Town should be moved further east and located on the hill near the 33rd mile stone along side the Shirady Ghaut road which has to be diverted a bit in front of the Travellers Bungalow.

7. Finance. - Turning now to the vexed question of finance, I fear in the very nature of things our housing schemes will be almost confined to those who can scrape together the required share capital to serve as the basis for Government or other loans. The wreckage of the homesteads will yield considerable quantities of sound building material such as timber, stones, etc. which, under the circumstances, can well be used for the new buildings. The material will have to be carefully valued and the resulting value credited towards sharecapital. Few have cash or other assets which could be converted into cash. I trust this method of raising the needed sharecapital will have to be permitted as it is - - unavoidable and I hope you will agree to this course forced upon us by the extraordinary situation created by this widespread calamity.

8. It is difficult to estimate at present the extent of Government loans which would be needed for the building up of the three towns. As observed already Mangalore and Puttur will have to surrender the Rs.10,000/- each which was estimated to be needed for their housing schemes. Over and above the Rs.20,000/- which is thus made available, I think quite a large amount will be needed and I would press your intimating to the Registrar the extraordinary demand thus created and requesting him to give South Kanara the first claim for as much money as will be needed out of the Rs.4 lakhs provided in the Budget this year. All schemes in other parts of the Presidency may well wait until our

40 35 38

needs here are satisfied.

9. I learn that the Venkatramana temples in Buntwal and Mangalore are thinking of furnishing all the capital needed for reconstruction in Buntwal with reference to the needs of the Gowd Saraswath Community. Whether this is true may be ascertained and if so, the money so offered may be advised to be lent through the Housing Societies projected by us. It will set free a large amount which can well be utilised in Panemangalorelore and Uppinangady which are not likely to be lucky enough to attract similar help.

10. One point which strikes me in this connection is the necessity for relaxing the rules so as to permit societies to accept deposits from non-members as well. The point of this restriction is not understood. So far as the safety of the Government money is concerned the byelaws themselves lay down that it will be a first charge on the assets of the society. If so, there need be no fear as regards other creditors coming in and claiming priority. I urge the departure from the rules in order that we may take advantage of temple funds, which cannot be availed of under the existing rules. I trust you will address the Registrar on the desirability of his urging on Government this relaxation of rules to this extent as a special case.

11. Aid to the poor.- This is the most difficult portion of the whole problem and our housing scheme does not promise much hope to these people unless Government relax the present rules so as to enable us to admit into the societies indigent people for whom we have to build houses entirely with money borrowed from Government or otherwise, and allowed to be occupied by them on the hire purchase system, the equated payments of capital and interest being spread over a longer term than 20 years which is the ordinary term contemplated by the rules, Even for other loans I would request your urging on the Registrar the necessity for allowing 30 years as a special case so that the annual equated payments may weigh as lightly on the afflicted people as possible.

12. I have jotted down briefly a few of the thoughts which have forced themselves on me and my fellow workers in our desperate anxiety to apply the co-operative remedy to relieve the extraordinary

situation which challenges solution at our hands. I request the favour of your communicating to me your views on the scheme outlined herein, so that we may evolve a suitable scheme and take immediate steps towards working it out.

27 ~~40~~ 42

Dev Dept

To Under Secy: Clearance flags 17-26 supra

Nr R-20 supra ..... Paras 1-5 of the Collector of S. Kanara's report may be forwarded to the C.C. of Forests Nrs 20-21 supra ~~for Report~~ and Para 1 with its enclosure at Nr 22-26 supra to the Regr of Cooperative Societies for report Draft D.O's to the two officers are submitted for approval

Through III Section
RR 13-9

CS 13.9.23 ..... S/Und 13.9.23

LRR 13.9.23

BM 13/9

~~78~~ ~~47~~ 43

Dev. Dept

D.O. No 2075-I-23-3 dt 13.9.23

My dear Tiremanji

[Floods - S. Kanara - Grant of Building materials.]

In continuation of my D.O. No 2075-I/23-1 dt 10-9-23, I am to enclose extracts from the report of the Collector of S. Kanara dt 10.9.23 for your information and early report especially on the points raised by the Collector in paras 4 and 5 of the report.

13.9.23
LKR
13.9.23

Kuri
13.9.23

D.O. No 2075-I/23-4 dt 13.9.23

Please despatch at once
13.9.23

H 16 n.f.
H 16-22 n

To H. Tiremanji Esq. I.F.S.
(with copy of paras 1-4 of the Coll's letter)
Ag. C.C. of Forests

Sent with Enclosure
MKR
14/9/23

My dear Hood,

[Floods - S. Kanara - Loans - Building Cooperative Societies]

In continuation of D.O. No 2075-I/23-2 dt 10.9.23, I am to enclose extracts from the report of the Collr. of S. Kanara dt 10.9.23 for your information and early report.

13.9.23
KuiR
13.9.23

H 16 n.f.
H 20-26 n.
Despd with Encl
MKR
14/9/23

To H.M. Hood Esq. I.C.S (with para 7 of Coll's report & the encls at H 22-26 n.f.)
Ag. Registrar of Cooperative Societies

44

D. O. 1582-60

Office of the Chief Conservator
of Forests, Chepauk,
Camp Ootacamund 15th Septr. 1923.

42

D 2174 I
18-9-23

Your D.O. No. 2075-I/23-1 dated 10 th instant enclosing extracts from further notes by Turing on the subject of South Kanara Flood Relief You should by now have received Richmond s report with my forwarding endorsement. I have not kept a copy here: but I think the report covers all the points raised by Turing.

2. Currie has probably already gone to South Kanara and with his help the two District Forest Officers can I think tackle the undertak ing though as Richmond or I have pointed out we shall have to close down a good deal of forest work losing some revenue in this way.

Yours sincerely

To

F. Noyce Esq., C.B.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to Government,
Development Depar·

29-43 45

(C.No.2154-1) From the C.C. of Forests, No.7342-23-1 dated 15-9-23.

To Under Secretary Please see C.C.'s report in the c.f. regarding floods in the South Kanara District. The points for consideration are:-

(1) Who should undertake the work of felling and transporting bamboo ~~from~~ to depots whence they could be sold to the Public

(2) Who should bear the cost of felling and transport

(3) Additional expenditure required

(4) Delegation of power to the Collector

2 As regards the first point, the relief committee consider that the work of extraction and transport of bamboo should be done by Government It appears that they are however prepared to do it if a grant were made to them for the purpose. The C.C points out that if the work is undertaken by forest department it will mean upsetting ~~upsetting~~ most of the work in progress in South Kanara and will result in a less of revenue. He accordingly urges that if possible the work should be entrusted to the Committee, the forest department giving whatever assistance it could. The Collector is of opinion that Government must undertake the supply departmentally. Mr.Turing was also of the same opinion. It is for orders whether Govt may agree with the CCF & Mr Turing.

3. As regards the second point the relief committee seems to be of opinion that the whole cost must fall on Government. The collector ~~is of opinion~~ thinks that ~~Govt~~ must recover the cost of felling, transport and other incidental, the free gant being confined to the value of the produce. This was also Mr. Turing's opinion. We may agree with ~~this~~ them and direct that ~~the~~ charges should be recovered from all grantees it being left to the relief committee to assist the poorer grantees by supplying them with part or the whole of the cost from the general fund.

4. As regards the third point the C.C. says that a special grant of Rs.85,000 will be required -- vide para 3 of his letter, page 2 c.f. On this point please see paras 9 and 16 of Mr. Richmond's report on pages 7 and 11 c.f. respectively. Mr. Richmond says that the amount of the special grant required cannot be stated with any degree of precision at this stage, and that the D.F.Os have been instructed to submit detailed estimates as soon as possible. The C.C may be asked to expedite the submission of these estimates and to state if any part of it can be met by reappropriation

para 9 & 16 c.f.
Should whether these estimates should be called for from the Forest officers direct.

5. As regards point 4, please see section 103 of the Forest Code under which the Collectors are empowered in case of special calamity to issue free grants to village communities up to an aggregate value of Rs.1,000. The C.C suggests, on the recommendation of Mr. Richmond, that the Collector be delegated with unlimited powers in the present case. In para 4 of his letter on pages 18 and 20 supra the Collector made the same request. For orders. whether the Collector may be empowered as suggested.

12 c.f.

6. In para 5 of his letter at page 20 supra, the Collector asked for the grant of certain other concessions. The C.C. has not made any mention of this in his letter.

20 supra

7. A draft order is submitted for consideration. It may issue with the concurrence of the Finance Dept For orders whether it should be placed on E.T.

CRA 18-9-43

Mr. Richmond's report seems to mean that the work of supplying the depots with bamboos has already been undertaken by the Forest Dept. in fact Mr. Richmond's appointment seems to be for the organisation of this work.

S/ WR 19.9.43.

81 - 95 97

I submit this file to H.M before sending ~~this~~ it either to Revenue or Finance as he has just returned from South Canara and will be able to clear up some doubtful points

2 The points for orders are as follows

(1) Whether the people who want bamboos should be sent into the forest to ~~get~~ them or whether the work of supplying them should be undertaken by the Relief Committee or by the Forest Dept? There can, I think no question that we should accept Mr Turing's view and that of the Collector which is that the work should be undertaken by the Forest Dept. Mr.Richmond says that the any further difficulties - - connected with departmental felling and transport ~~are principally~~ is the absence of any organisation for ~~such~~ his purpose. The Forest Dept. has much better organisation for the purpose than the Relief Committee would have and I think that if the work were entrusted to the Relief Committee ~~it will~~ things in Kanara probably result in a hopeless muddle and in many complaints of favouritism etc. I therefore consider that the Forest Dept. must undertake the work in spite of the dislocation of its ordinary programme which is involved.

I have already given instructions on the spot in this sense RSC

(2) Whether Bamboos should be supplied free or at ~~a~~ cost price?

Mr. Turing and the Collector are both of the opinion that bamboos should be sold at cost price, i.e., for the cost of felling and transportation. I do not think we need go beyond this and do more than waive seigniorage fees. The Relief Committee is, I believe, fairly well off in the matter of funds and it is for that Committee to assist the poorer classes who cannot afford to pay the cost price. From the general tenor of Mr. Turing's note it does not appear that there will be many such cases.

Not very; but this is the only way in which it can be done. There will be a good many who cannot pay, but they will manage somehow RSC

(3) Additional expenditure required. In para 16 of his note at page 10 c.f the Conservator says that a special grant of about Rs.85,000 will be necessary though the amount of it cannot be stated with any degree of precision at this stage. The C.C repeats this. I am not at all clear what they mean unless it be that they mean that a grant of Rs.85,000 will be required if the bamboos are to be supplied absolutely free of cost. If, as is suggested above they are supplied at cost price, it is not a grant but an advance that will be required and which will be recouped as the bamboos are sold. In any case, the money should not come out of the Forest budget and it is quite unnecessary to ask, as suggested in the office note, the C.C whether he can meet any part of the expenditure by re-appropriation from his budget. It is, I think, for Revenue to find the money and as it is in the nature of an advance I understand from Mr.Legh that there will be no difficulty in doing this from the Board's Loan Account.

I had some difficulty in understanding this also; but I take it it means the cost of felling & transport to depots, which the F D will have to run in the first instance & then recover. If this is so the Relief Committee will have to find a good deal more than the Rs 20000 or so it has got now

A Rdy

(4) The Collector has asked for full powers in the matter of free grants of bamboos and other forest produce in reserved lands. The Conservator supports the request and the powers may be delegated to him accordingly. It seems to me that it is in the nature of a formality as if Govt. direct that the seigniorage fees should be waived, which is equivalent to giving the Collector general powers to make free grants. I take it that the concessions referred to in section 103 of the Forest Code are merely meant to confine the actual timber and other forest produce and do not include the cost of extraction which is borne by the community or individual to which the grant is made.

may as well sanction

Rdy

(5) In paras 14 and 15 of his report Mr.Richmond makes suggestions for supplementing the supply of bamboos by grants of palmyrahs from unreserved lands, by poles from reserves and by small timber from unreserves. In as much as they go, I think we may perhaps say that these suggestions should be acted on as far as possib

Rdy

Rdy

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Extract of the Hon'ble Mr. R. A. Graham's note on the South Kanara Floods.

9. The Forest Officers are arranging for the supply of bamboos. They estimate that it will be possible to get some 2,50,000 and that if this figure is adopted the cost of extraction (including bringing to depots) will average from Rs.25 to 30 a hundred. This excludes seigniorage and the procedure to be adopted will be that suggested in para. 4 (3) and (4) of Mr. Turing's third note. All the proposals in that paragraph in fact may well be adopted. In addition there are in some parts of the district a large number of palmyra standing on what are known as Revenue Kadus. The Rev. authorities say that there is no objection to giving these free to the poor people and on seigniorage to others.

10. The system of permits suggested in paragraph 4 (4) of Mr. Turing's note can be extended also to certain timber which the Forest department have available and which might also be used: and also to other timber which, though useful for house building for the poor people, would not ordinarily pay the cost of extraction. But the first efforts of the Forest department must be devoted to bringing bamboos and it is only if they can do so without interfering with this that they should attempt to supply timber.

11. It will be seen that the cost of supplying bamboos by the Forest department is considerably higher than the estimate given to Mr. Turing by the Forest officer. In fact it will not be much less than the present market price of bamboos in Mangalore, but the fact that the Forest department is supplying will tend to prevent profiteering by private merchants,

52/ 2/ 50

These are apparently already taking steps to stock more. I saw several fafts of bamboos coming down the river and the Forest department had not yet had time to get to work, so they must have been on private account.

12. A request made to me was with regard to the use of timber standing on kumaki lands. I was told that the rules do not allow a landholder to use this outside the village in which it stands. or to sell it. But there are bound to be cases in which a landholder who wants building materials will want them in a village in which he has no kumaki rights or in which there is no timber on his kumaki. ,Also it is desirable not to restrict the sources of supply to people who want to build their houses. I think therefore that this rul might be temporarily relaxed so long as steps can be taken to prevent profiteering.

13. The bamboos will be supplied at cost price by the Forest departmen but there will be a good many people who cannot produce even that cost price and have no pledgeable interest in land and will therefore not be eligible for loans under the Acts. The Committee proposes to help these people to buy the necessary material but I gather that its total collections amount only to about Rs.25,000 of which it has spent some portion in doles and other forms of relief The price of bamboos being what it is, the balance of these collections will not by any means cover all necessitous cases. The Committee ought no doubt to have been able to collect more but it now asks for a grant of Rs.50.000 from the Government to help it out.. This means practically a gratuitous contribution towards the rebuilding of houses in addition to the supply of bamboos at cost price and I told the Committee that I thought it was a large demand to make. I think however that considering the fact that many of these

people have sustained a total loss of their property, something in the way of gratuitous relief might be ventured on and I would suggest a grant of Rs.10.000 the Committee being urged at the same time to make more strenous efforts to collect privately.

18. As regards Mr Turing's point about Commercial accounting in the Forest Department I do not think that there is any necessity to worry. Any loss on the supply of bamboo or other material would be shown practically as gift and allowance would have to be made for this not so much in making up the accounts as in criticising them.

19 The rate of interest also will prevent resort to cooperative Societies These charge Rs.10-15-0 per cent on loans and the Assistant Registrar says that it is impossible to differentiate between new subscribers and old.

R.A G 4
19 9-23

S2 38 54

Revenue Dept.

To Under Secy.

As directed by the secretary, extract of C4's note of 4-9-23 on the S. Kanara floods so far as it relates to the supply of bamboos to people who have been rendered homeless by the recent floods has been added on to this file.

2/ As regards the special advance of Rs. 85,000 referred to in the Development Dept's note on p 32 ante, it is understood from Finance that no budget provision is necessary to meet the advance and that the A.G on receipt of the orders of Govt sanctioning the advance will treat it as an advance recoverable & recoupable from the sale proceeds of the bamboos as they are sold. Before passing this file on to Finance I seems desirable to obtain definite information on the point mentioned by A.G

The following T. dft is for approval:—

From

The Secy to Govt RD

To the Accountant General

V. U. Special

It is proposed to supply bamboos through the agency of the Forest Dept at cost price to those landholders in the

S214

Please see Dft 4/9/23

D/RD 4/9/23

Secy

55/ 57 53

S. Kanara Dt. whose houses have been damaged by the recent floods in order to enable them to reconstruct their houses. An advance of Rs 85,000 is immediately required to meet the cost of felling the bamboos & transporting them to convenient depots for sale. The amount will be recouped as the bamboos are sold. Will you kindly inform me immediately from what provision in the current year's budget estimate this advance can be met and if there is no such provision, how the proposed advance can be made.

Fe 21.9.23

Rev 21/9/23

Wad 21.9.23

From Ag.

To Secy, Rev Dept

Your D.No.D 21.9.23. Re advance - bamboos South Kanara flood relief

Please refer the case unofficially.

Ch 22/9.

W.M. Finance Dept

M. Finance

Wolh

40

56

To Under Secy

The following H.O. note is submitted with reference to the A.G.'s telephone message on p 39 supra:—

No 1796 B/23-3
24.9.1923

Please take two copies one for A.G. for file

The 24/9/23

During the recent floods in the S. Kanara district about 6855 houses have been completely destroyed and many owners rendered homeless. The Govt propose to supply these owners with bamboos for the reconstruction of their houses. The forest department will extract the bamboos from the forests, transport them to convenient depots and sell them to the people at the actual cost incurred, without charging seigniorage. To meet the cost of extraction & transport in advance of Rs 85,000 is immediately required by the forest department and this will be recouped as the bamboos are sold. The forest department cannot spare any amount from its budget for this purpose. The Accts Genl is requested to advise whether the advance of Rs 85,000 may be treated as "advance recoverable and recorded from the sale proceeds" and if not, how else such provision must be made. Legislative sanction will be sought for the advance.

2/. After issue of this H.O. note the file may be

5/ 47 55

passed on to Finance. Rs mspn when received will be dealt with separately

Re 24.9.23
Wdk 24.9.23

Re 25.9.23

Fwd 24/9/23

DEPT. OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE
SECRETARIAT
18 SEP 1923

For attention

DEPT. OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE
SECRETARIAT
18 SEP 1923

Fwd S799B1/23 DF W
25/9/23

Rev 210 1796B/23-4
24.9.23

Finance Dept

The case has been sent to this Dept for perusal, with reference to para 2 (3) on page 32 ante of Dev Secy's note on page 34 ante.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE
SECRETARIAT
27 SEP 1923

The case has been sent to this Dept for perusal, with reference to para 2 (3) on page 32 ante. The question referred to is already under separate consideration vide Rev Dept W.S. above.

2 The case may be returned to Development.

Re 25.9.23

25/9/25

Fwd: S799B1-1
26/9/23

Dev. Dept

D2260F
27/9/23

No further action on this file seems to be taken to issue an order according the reference for the supply of bamboos departmentally and for selling them at the price fixed with reference to their cost of removal and transit and of placing an amount of advances at the disposal of the Forest Dept to meet the initial cost.

As regards the last-mentioned a reference has gone and from the letter at A and his reply it appears that the Govt. may postpone the issue of their orders until the procedure about securing an advance is finally settled.

S/ [illegible]
28/9/32

I am asked for by Legislative Assembly Secretariat to furnish with reference to their letter No 1131-33 etc.

28/9/32

For K.S.

A letter received from the Leg. while the file was in Finance & S Rly Dept has been addressed to the P.A. to C.P.W.D.

2 orders are issuing re. Ranchoma an advance of Rs 5,000 to meet the initial cost of fellowship transport of workmen etc. A copy of the orders proposed to be issued is placed below for signature

A draft order is submitted for C.P.W.D. for ordering whether or not need be placed

may be placed on G.T. [illegible]

S/ [illegible]
29.9.32

LSK
29/9.

59/63 57

Would Rev Lect interpret the draft like this. Please have it retyped and send it back clean. Our orders should issue simultaneously with those in Revenue. I presume this has to be done in order on ET. It is scarcely desirable that both should go on ET. We may then settle down.

Dev. L.O. 2260 I/23-1
29.9.23

29.9.23

Rev 1887 B
1-10-23

Revenue Department.

To Under Secy

The file, be returned to Development after perusal

2/. This department may agree with Development that both the orders may be placed on E.T. As the matter is urgent the orders may be in manuscript first & then sent to the Press with instruction that both the orders should be placed on E.T. simultaneously

1.10.23

1.10.23

1.10.23

1/10/23

Rev NO 1887 B/23-1
1.10.23

Draft sheet as let me submit to Rev Secretary for Rev.

1.10.23

Order sent to Press)
1/10-23

~~44~~ ~~58~~ 60

To U.S.

The order above [illegible] urgency printed and placed on [illegible] the whole correspondence with notes will now be ordered to be printed

CA 11.10.25

S/Mitchell 4.10.25

CAR 11.10.25

Hewitt [illegible] the Secretary's letter

FL 11.10.25

20 2 Nos/1923 2-50 57 21

J. H-10 (b)—2,002—31-3-20. Floods

Development DEPARTMENT.

S. Kanara — Supply of Building materials through the agency of Forest Dept.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. ....., dated - 192

" " " " ..... " 192

READ ALSO

C. No. 2154-I, From the C.C. of Forests ....., Ref.ce. No. 7342-23, dated 15 - 9 - 192 3.

" " ..... " " ..... " ..... " 192

" ..... " " ..... " ..... " 192

ORDER

No. 426, dated 2 10 1923.

Appr.

Admn MS. Pr. A 4 U.D.

The Govt. have given their careful consideration to the report of the Chief Conservator and the Conservator of Forests VI Circle regarding the assistance to be given by the Forest Department in the reconstruction of houses destroyed or damaged by the recent floods in the South Kanara district They are of opinion that the supply of bamboos required for this purpose should be undertaken by the Forest Dept. in spite of the dislocation of the departmental programme this involves.

3/4/24

2. Seigniorage fees will be waived in respect of bamboos and other forest produce supplied for the relief of distress in the South Kanara Dt., which will henceforth be supplied at cost price that is, the cost of felling and transport and incidental charges only will be recovered from the purchasers. Orders are issuing separately in the Revenue Department in regard to the free grants in necessitous cases should any such remain after the funds raised by public assistance are exhau The bamboos should be sold at the distributing centres mentioned in the margin, in the manner suggested in para.11 of the Conservator's report and subject to such other conditions as the Collector may deem necessary to impose. The Conservator suggests that the supply of bamboos should be supplemented by grants of Palmyras from un-reserved lands, by the supply of poles from certain reserves and by lot of small timber from un-reserves. Effect should be given to these suggestions as far as possible.

* Coondapoor
Udipi
Mangalore
Pannemangalor
Uppinangudi
Bevingi

The procedure in regard to supplies from these sources should be the same as that laid down for the supply of bamboos.

3. ~~[illegible] are cleared. xxx as a special case to relax the conditions in section 103 of the Forest Code and to~~ authorize ~~the Collector of South Kanara~~ him to make free grants of bamboos and other forest produce from reserved forests and reserved lands without limit of cost. The Collector is requested to report in due course through the Board of Revenue the total value of the grants thus made by him. The powers thus given to the Collector extend only to the value of the actual timber and other produce removed from the Forests. As already directed the cost of extraction will be borne by the grantee.

4. The Govt. ~~are~~ also ~~pleased to~~ sanction the grant of the following concessions which have been recommended by the Collector

(1) that the rule that Kumakidars should use the trees, timber and other forest produce of their Kumaki for

or domestic agricultural purposes only in the village in which the Kumaki is situated, be suspended until 31st March 1924.

(2) that the rule that no permits are to be issued for trees under 6' girth from unreserved lands and under 4' girth from Kumaki lands be suspended till 31st March 1924.

(3) that Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars be empowered to issue permits for cutting reserved and classified trees from unreserved and Kumaki lands till 31st March 1924 without the previous sanction of the D.F.O.

The local officers should be instructed to watch carefully the manner in which these concessions are worked and to see that they are not abused.

5. Orders are issuing separately in the Revenue Department authorising the Accountant General to place at the disposal of the Conservator an advance of Rs.85,000 to meet the initial expenditure connected with felling and transport of bamboos and other forest produce

DESPATCHED 24 OCT 1923

DISPATCHED 2 OCT 1923

S.R.R.
28-9-23

K.n.n.
29-9-23

F.N.
29-9-23

To
The C.C. of Forests.
Collector of South Kanara
Board of Revenue, Land Rev. Sec.
Copy to the Revenue Department
" Conservator of Forests
VI Circle.
E.T. (Order only)